Government and Central Issue Price (CIP) is passed on to State Government as food subsidy. Government of India would work out a detailed scheme in consultation with State Governments to share gains of localized procurement. It has been clarified to the States that the scheme would not be imposed on any State. The present arrangement would continue where States are not yet prepared to shift to a decentralized system of procurement.

Meetings have been convened with Food Secretaries of Assam, Orissa, Bihar, Karnatka, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, Chattisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra and Rajasthan. The Government of Assam is willing to implement the scheme. The States were made aware of the benefits of decentralized procurement scheme and were asked to submit a comprehensive blue print of the proposals required to be addressed, to embark on this scheme.

Fair Price Shop in Jangla, Shimla

†1864. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would consider for opening of a fair shop in Jangla in Shimla district so that the common man, particularly farmers could get essential commodities at fair price;

(b) if so, by when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN):(a) to (c) As reported by Government of Himachal Pradesh, a fair price shop at Jangla in Shimla District is already functioning which is being run by the Ransar Valley Cooperative M.P. Society Ltd. Jangla and the above society is also distributing essential commodities satisfactorily to 361 card holders

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

covering a population of 1250. As such there is no need to open another fair price shop in the area.

Issuance of New Ration Cards

1865. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have issued any guidelines to the State Governments with regard to issuing new ration cards to public;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether Government have received any complaints regarding harassments and maltreatment being meted out to the public by the employees working in the Food and Supplies Department, particularly in Delhi/New Delhi; and

(d) if so, the steps Government propose to take to kee a vigil on corrupt and errant employees of the Food and Supplies Department as well as to make the procedure simple?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN):(a) and (b) Under the guidelines issued in respect of Antyodaya Anna Yojana, State Governments/UT Administrations have been asked to identify the poorest of the poor families out of the families living below the poverty line (BPL) and issue distinctive ration cards to them by actively involving the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) in rural areas and local bodies in the urban areas.

(c) and (d) All complaints regarding malfunctioning of PDS including complaints against employees of Food and Supply Department received in the Ministry are forwarded to State Government concerned for investigation and further action. As reported by the State Government of NCT Delhi, senior officers regularly visited the Circle Offices where forms were issued and